

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 113832

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 113832 ACTION USUN INFO GENEVA DACCA
ISLAMABAD NEW DELHI MAY 30TH

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SREF, BG, IN, PK

SUBJECT: USG POSTURE TOWARD SOUTH ASIAN RESETTLEMENT
PROGRAM

REF: A) ISLAMABAD 4328; B) STATE 216539 OF 11/3/73
C) GENEVA 3366 OF 5/29/74

1. USG REMAINS RELUCTANT TO BE DRAWN INTO SUPPORT OF ANY
PROGRAM FOR RESETTLEMENT OF REPATRIATEES IN PAKISTAN AND
BANGLADESH. ESSENTIAL REASON REMAINS OUR OPINION THAT
FOREIGN-SUPPORTED PROGRAMS WILL INEVITABLY EMPHASIZE
SEPARATENESS OF RECIPIENT GROUPS AND REDUCE LOCAL GOVERN-
MENT INCENTIVE TO ENCOURAGE NATURAL PROCESSES OF INTEGRATION.
PARTICULARLY IN BANGLADESH, THERE IS ALSO NO CLEAR REASON
WHY REPATRIATEES SHOULD BE SINGLED OUT FOR ASSISTANCE
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PAGE 02 STATE 113832

TO EXCLUSION OF LARGE NUMBER OF OTHER DESTITUTE AND HOME-
LESS INDIVIDUALS.

2. QUESTION OF SOURCE OF FUNDS ALSO PRESENTS PROBLEMS.
LIMITED REFUGEE MONIES FULLY COMMITTED ELSEWHERE. DOLLARS
800,000 REMAINING FROM PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION CANNOT
BE USED FOR RESETTLEMENT ACTIVITIES BECAUSE REQUEST TO
PRESIDENT SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED SUCH USE. WE ARE NOT
INCLINED TO SEEK AMENDMENT TO PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION
TO PERMIT THIS. AID FUNDS CAN ONLY APPROPRIATELY BE
ALLOCATED FOR DEVELOPMENT-ORIENTED ACTIVITIES IN

ACCORDANCE WITH ACCEPTED COUNTRY PROGRAMS. IN SHORT USG
HAS NO FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR USG DONATION TO RESETTLEMENT
PROGRAM.

3. WE RECOGNIZE THAT PRESSURE WILL MOUNT FOR USG
PARTICIPATION IF UN COORDINATED PROGRAM TAKES SHAPE.
WE DO NOT WISH TO BE SEEN AS SABOTAGING INTERNATIONAL
EFFORT, BUT UN AND OTHER POTENTIAL DONORS SHOULD
QUIETLY BE PUT ON NOTICE THAT USG DOES NOT INTEND TO
PARTICIPATE. UNEQUIVOCAL STATEMENT OF OUR POSITION
AT THIS TIME SHOULD AT LEAST PERMIT POTENTIAL PARTIC-
IPANTS TO PLAN REALISTICALLY IN ABSENCE OF USG TITHE.

4. IN LIEU OF RESETTLEMENT HELP, DEPARTMENT CONSIDERING
ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO UNHCR EXCHANGE PROGRAM.
LATEST UNHCR ESTIMATES (REFTEL C) INDICATE POTENTIAL
SHORTFALL ON THE ORDER OF DOLS. 600,000 TO 700,000 FOR
COMPLETION OF EXCHANGES BY JUNE 31. ADDITIONAL CONTRI-
BUTION, IF MADE, MIGHT PUT US SUBSTANTIALLY OVER PLEDGE
TO PROVIDE ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF COSTS. THIS WOULD PUT US
IN GOOD POSITION TO REFUSE PARTICIPATION IN RESETTLEMENT
PROGRAM FOR REASONS CITED ABOVE, WHILE POINTING OUT
SUPEREROGATORY CONTRIBUTION TO UNHCR-SPONSORED EXCHANGE.

5. ACTION AND INFO ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE
POINTS CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPHS 1 THRU 3 TO APPROPRIATE
UN OFFICIALS. USG VIEWS MAY ALSO BE SHARED WITH OTHER
POTENTIAL DONORS, THOUGH CARE SHOULD BE EXERCISED
TO AVOID APPEARANCE OF LOBBYING AGAINST PROGRAM. FOR
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PAGE 03 STATE 113832

TIME BEING, SUBSTANCE OF FOURTH PARA SHOULD BE CAST IN
TERMS OF USG WILLINGNESS TO MAKE ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION
TO UNHCR FOR MOVEMENT OF PERSONS SHOULD IT BECOME
NECESSARY. BROWN UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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